ATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IN THE U

In re Application of:

PATENT APPLICATION

Paul D. Hanke

FEEDBACK-RESISTANT PYRUVATE

CARBOXYLASE GENE FROM **CORYNEBACTERIUM**

Serial No.: 09/974,973

Group Art Unit: 1652

Filed: October 12, 2001

Examiner: Slobodyansky, E.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

January 5, 2005

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT E AND REPLY TO FINAL OFFICIAL **ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

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Sir:

12105 This is in response to the Final Official Action mailed November 15, 2004, in connection with the above-captioned application having a statutory period for response set to expire February 15, 2005. This Amendment and Reply is submitted within the two month period of the mailing date of the Final Action. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue an Advisory Action before the end of the three month statutory period ending February 15, 2005. The Examiner's rejections have been carefully considered and in view of the following remarks and amendments, reconsideration and early allowance of all pending claims is courteously requested.

Please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this Amendment.

Remarks/Arguments begins on page 6 of this Amendment.